

FOR PARENTS ONLY

By Nancy Cleaver

SAINT VALENTINE'S DAY

"Mice bid the morn awake
Sad winter now declines
Each bird doth choose a mate
This day's St. Valentine's.
For that good bishop's sake
Get up and let us see
What beauty it shall be
That fortune us assigns."

Drayton

Who was St. Valentine? Why is his day February 14th? History tells us that Valentine or "Valentinus" was the name of a number of saints. But the most famous of these were two martyrs, both who died on February 14th, one a Roman Priest and the other Bishop of Terni. They lived in the third century and met their deaths under Emperor Claudius' rule. No love story like that of Abelard and Heloise is associated with either of these church men. So far as we know, they wrote no love songs.

The association of the Lovers Festival with Saint Valentine's is accidental. Possibly it can be traced back to the church trying to wipe out the pagan practice of young men and women drawing each others names from a box on the feasts of Pan and Juno in February. The common people refused to substitute the names of saints and insisted on preserving this custom of the two sexes drawing

each others names by chance.

Gradually this rite was celebrated on St. Valentine's Day and its observance spread throughout Europe and to England. It is mentioned by Chaucer in Peppy's Diary in Charles 2 reign, and also by Shakespeare, Drayton, a poet of Shakespeare's time, wrote a charming poem "To His Valentine" which included lines quoted above.

Children love special occasions and in the middle of winter comes St. Valentine's Day. Long before February 14th boys and girls have been cutting out red hearts from cardboard or crayoning or painting them on paper and finding suitable pictures to decorate their home-made valentines. An edging from a paper lace doilie forms a pretty effect! Perhaps they have been making up little rhymes to print on their card—even if their verses are not real poetry—at least they are original.

St. Valentine's Day is a good time for parents to think ahead to the future when their son or daughter will be looking for a life partner and eventually marrying. During their school years, children should have the opportunity to play with children of both sexes. Adolescent boys and girls are benefitted greatly by being able to entertain mixed groups in their own homes.

Parents should take a real interest in youth gatherings in clubs or Sunday School classes and in community centres such as "Teen Town" which provides wholesome recreation under good leadership. The boys and girls who have worked and played together in a wholesome atmosphere in their teens are more likely to make a wise choice of a life partner in their twenties! In these days of rising divorce rates, parents might well ask themselves, "What kind of marriage risk is my boy or girl likely to be?"

Fashions



Here's a dress to wear anywhere, for town or southern resorts. Of wool and rayon jersey that comes in winter colors and delicate resort pastels, the dress falls softly and drapes beautifully to flatter the figure. From the off-shoulder yoke line the bodice and winged under-arm sleeves are softly gathered. The skirt is four-pored and falls with a gentle flare. A corded string sash ties in front.

Somewhere in Virginia there is a sign advertising the hound puppies. It reads: "Get a long little doggie."

Local Happenings

Bishop and Mrs. William Jensen were hosts Sunday evening at a Fire side for the 2nd Ward Juniors and Explorers. Miss Emilie Czep was guest and spoke to the group.

At the recent meeting of the Readers Progress Club Mrs. Martha Taylor and Mrs. Irene Cooper entertained

at the home of the former. Mrs. Norma Meldrum gave the review and chose as her book Home Country by the late Ernie Pyle, a story of his travels over the 48 states of his country. All members were present but three. Mrs. Opal Wiggill was a guest. Later lunch was served.

Mrs. Donna Meldrum entertained her Sunday School class at her home Tuesday evening when the young people spent a very happy time.

Mrs. Arlo Palmer of Rosemary is a visitor here at the home of her sister Mrs. Bruce Galbraith.

Mrs. Bruce Galbraith and Mrs. Warren Jones were hospital patients last week.

Sleigh riding seems to be the top in entertainment these days and the young people are taking advantage of the few sleighs. Wednesday evening nearly one hundred young people (Gleaners and M Men) of the four wards enjoyed such an outing. Later they all parked at the High School gym for lunch and dancing.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Smith were recent Calgary visitors.

Miss Emilie Czep was hostess to the Business Girls Club when they met at the home of Mrs. H. F. Allen. A happy evening was spent with lunch being served later.

Mrs. Evelyn Taylor is visiting her son in law and daughter Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Anderson in Montreal.

The Ashcroft Club met Monday evening at the library with Mrs. J. O. Anderson in charge of the meeting. There was a good attendance of members and history of Ancient Egypt was studied. Mrs. Paul Morehead also gave current events.

The Sunday night Club met last week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lyman. The lesson on Church History was given by Godfrey Holmstrom.

The Misses Lorraine Shaw and Lucille Thompson are home for the week from Calgary where they are employed.

Birthday parties were held last week for Mrs. Ruth Finch and Mrs. Lucille Green at the home of the former when a pleasant evening was spent. The honored ladies both received lovely gifts.

Miss Corinne Finch entertained a number of her little friends, the occasion being her birthday. After lunch the youngsters enjoyed the show at the Capital.

The Women's Auxiliary met recently at the home of Mrs. A. C. King with twenty members in attendance. Mrs. Vern Peterson was assistant hostess for the afternoon.

Mr. Stan Cook announces the engagement of his eldest daughter Lillian Laura to Lowell Layton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Myron Layton of Cardston. The marriage will take place Thursday, February 19th in the Alberta Temple at Cardston.

Malcolm Bridge, a former school teacher was a visitor here last week. He was speaker at the 1st Ward Services Sunday evening when he spoke of missionary experiences in Eastern Canada from where he has just returned.

Mr. and Mrs. Alma Hahnen and Mr. Jensen were Calgary visitors last week.

The Ladies Literary Society held their annual party at the home of Mrs. Verna Allen when they entertained their partners. After the serving of a delicious lunch took place, some going to Ethel Jacobs home where Mrs. Leslie Palmer. Hostesses for the occasion were Mesdames Verna Allen, Melba Holmes and Alma Dahl.

Miss Lillian Cook was honored at a shower last Monday evening at the home of Mrs. Madge Fairbanks. During the evening many ladies called and the bride to be received many lovely gifts for her new home.

Ray Cook, son of Mrs. Ray Depew has severed his connection with the Treasury Branch and will leave shortly for a two year mission to Australia.

Mr. and Mrs. Alma Evans and children spent the weekend in Blairmore visiting Mrs. Evans parents Mr. and Mrs. Frank Leavitt.

Miss Viola Blackmore, who is teaching school at Cardston spent the weekend here, guest of Miss Afton Christensen.

Fourth Ward M Men and Gleaners greatly enjoyed a sleigh ride Friday evening, the group lunching at the Sugar Bowl afterwards.

Chains on Brains

Talk to a rural school teacher. Talk, even, to many teachers in towns. They'll tell you that educational facilities are often shockingly poor—so limited they are holding our children back. School houses are decades old, lighting is poor, heat comes from the same stove that glowed for grandparents. Some schools are without teachers—others have teachers with little interest, little training. Conditions are chains on the brains of future Alberta. Not until Alberta as a whole, through the Provincial Government, places Education as its first duty, will Education make the progress it must. Talk, write, call your M.L.A. In the minds of children today is what

Alberta will be tomorrow

This advertisement inserted by Alberta Educational Council with 14 supporting provincial and many local organizations

SCOTT'S SCRAP BOOK

By R. J. SCOTT

SCRAPS
How many eggs in a dozen?
How many oysters in a dozen?
How many...
BECAUSE ITS SKIN IS VERY ELASTIC A RABBIT SWELLS AMAZINGLY FROM INSIDE PRESSURE IT TAKES UP TO GREAT HEIGHTS IN AN AIRPLANE.



THE CHRISTENING OF PRINCE CHARLES

The baptism of His Royal Highness Prince Charles of Edinburgh, the infant son of their Royal Highnesses Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh, took place recently in the White and Gold Music room of Buckingham Palace. The infant Prince was given the names of Charles

Philip Arthur George, and he ceremony was conducted by His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury. The service was attended by Her Majesty the King and Queen, members of the Royal Family and a few of their close friends.

These pictures, the first to be seen of the infant Prince, were taken immediately after the christening ceremony and show the baby wearing the Royal christening robe of white silk and Honiton lace made for Queen Victoria's children and used since by the Royal Family.

The baby prince is the centre of admiration in this happy family picture after the christening ceremony where in the arms of his mother, he is seen with his father and grandparents.